Robot Surgery

†*494. SHRIMATI SAV1TA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be oleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have refused to allow Robot Surgery;

(b) if so, whether any difficulty is being felt by Government to accept the proposal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) No proposal regarding robot surgery has been received.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Environmental pollution due to shipbreaking activity

*495. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH SURYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether ship-breaking activity causes environmental pollution;

(b) if so, whether adequate measures have been taken for taking care of this problem;

(c) whether the cases of flouting those norms have come to notice; and

(d) if so, the action taken against erring persons/organisations?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI VED PRAKASH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Various measures taken by the Government for taking care of this problem are as under:

(i) Ministry of Environment and Forests has constituted an Advisory Committee to advise on the aspects to the regulation of ship breaking for sound Environmental Planning and Management (EMP) including proper handling of hazardous waste.

(ii) The Environmental Guidelines on ship breaking industry have been prepared by the Central Pollution Control Board and circulated to the concerned State Pollution Control Boards for implementation. A regular monitoring mechanism is in place.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.